

SEES PLAGIARISM IN "THE GUILTY MAN"

Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes Says
Scene Was Taken From
Her Play.

HER CHARGES ARE DENIED

F. H. Robinson, Who Suggested
It, and Writer, Mrs. Davis,
Make Answer.

Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes has written Mrs. Helen Ruth Davis, author of "The Guilty Man," a play which is to be put on at the Lyric Theatre on November 14 under the auspices of the Medical Review of Reviews, urging that one of the scenes in the play, staged in the office of a physician, is modeled after a scene in an unfinished play by Mrs. Stokes with the title of "Mary."

Mrs. Davis said last night that the idea of putting in a scene in a doctor's office had emanated from Frederick H. Robinson, president of the company which published the Medical Review of Reviews, who is backing the production of "The Guilty Man," and that she had written in this scene at his suggestion after play was completed.

She said that she had never heard any of Mrs. Stokes's play and that she had merely gone ahead and written the scene at the point in the play suggested by Mr. Robinson.

The matter was brought to public attention by Miss Lillian Pastor, a sister of Mrs. Stokes, who called up The Sun last night and said that a scene in "The Guilty Man," which is to be produced on November 14 at the Lyric Theatre under the auspices of the Sociological Fund of the Medical Review of Reviews, was a plagiarism on a scene from a play which Mrs. Stokes is writing under the title "Mary."

Miss Pastor met reporters at her home, 1010 Hae Avenue, The Bronx. She said that Frederick H. Robinson, president of the company which publishes the Medical Review of Reviews, was personally acquainted with her sister and that he had used Mrs. Stokes's play, "The Guilty Man," in his play, "The Guilty Man," at the Lyric Theatre, last June.

At that time, Miss Pastor said, he read the play "The Guilty Man," which he was planning to put on, and Mrs. Stokes read her unfinished play, "Mary." The Stokes play, Miss Pastor said, contained as its strongest act a scene in a physician's office, in which the young woman of the play begs the physician to perform an illegal operation upon her.

Impressed by Scene.
Mr. Robinson, Miss Pastor said, expressed himself as much impressed by this scene. She adds that there was no such scene in "The Guilty Man" at that time.

Early in September, Miss Pastor said, Mr. Robinson returned to Caritas Island and said that the play "The Guilty Man" was ready. He read the revised version of it and when he came to a scene in it staged in a physician's office and reciting similar circumstances to those in Mrs. Stokes's play, Mrs. Stokes said, according to her sister.

"You're not using that scene, are you?" I thought that was original in my play," Mr. Robinson replied, according to Miss Pastor, that this was the strongest part in the new play and that he finally admitted that the idea had been suggested to him by Mrs. Stokes's play and promised to take it out.

Mrs. Stokes immediately wrote to Ruth Helen Davis, who made the dramatization from Francois Coppée's novel, protesting against the use of the scene which she considered her own property. The dramatizer replied, Miss Pastor said, that this part of her play had been put in at the suggestion of Mr. Robinson and that she had nothing to do with it.

Version of Dramatizer.
Ruth Helen Davis said last night that she had had correspondence with Mrs. Stokes regarding the matter, in which Mrs. Stokes had said that this scene was new idea.

Mr. Robinson said last night that he doubted very much if Mrs. Stokes knew of her sister's statement and expressed doubt also of Miss Pastor's authority to speak for Mrs. Stokes. He said that he suggested the idea of such an act as that in controversy to Mrs. Davis, and that the idea had been original with himself. He had had such a scene in mind for a long time, he said. He said that a Brooklyn physician also had written a play, not yet finished, with a similar scene, of which Mr. Robinson had knowledge.

Mr. Robinson denied emphatically that he had been indebted to Mrs. Stokes for this scene in any way. He said, however, that it was true that Mrs. Stokes had read her play to him before he had made his suggestion to Mrs. Davis for the incorporation of such a scene in "The Guilty Man."

"But I had absolutely forgotten her play," he said, "and it was only when she recalled it to my mind when I was at her home recently that I remembered that she had such a scene in her play."

Objects to Publicity.
Mrs. Davis, author of "The Guilty Man," gave out this statement last night, in which she took exception to the sort of publicity which has been given to her play.

"The Medical Review of Reviews," she said, "has entirely misstated the purpose and object of my play; in fact they have without my knowledge given out the information which has been published. The theme of 'The Guilty Man' (as any one familiar with French literature or with my published translation of Francois Coppée's masterly novel will know) is that of the awakening and development of a human soul."

"It is a wonderful psychological character study portraying the evolution of a human nature to a point of self-sacrifice and redemption as the result of obedience to the highest prompting of morality. The story of the play has been so grossly distorted that it may be well for me to repeat it briefly as it really is."

"Christine Lejeune, the protagonist, becomes an attorney-general of France after a lifetime's devotion to the law. At the height of his career he is called upon to prosecute a young man accused of murder and theft. It develops that this criminal is his own illegitimate son. When he ascertains this fact he awakens to the realization that he himself is responsible for the outcome of this man's life and he publicly denounces, not the misguided boy who was left to chance and miserable in-

fluence, but instead declares himself to be the guilty man."

"Even the fact that the boy is illegitimate is only an incident in the play to make the father's sacrifice the greater in acknowledging a son of whose existence the world did not know. This speech of self-accusation ranks in French literature with Victor Hugo's 'Les Misérables'."

"Students of literature know that I would willingly sacrifice any literary distinction rather than express that which would be an offence to public morals. One with ideals, who hopes to convey an uplifting message, cannot with sincerity give utterance to statements which would license unbridled immorality."

Mrs. Davis added that her play was not to be considered in the same category with "The Lure" and "The Fight," to which the police have given attention recently, and that there was no objectionable scene in her play.

Daniel Frohman, who was at Mrs. Davis's home at 11 East Seventy-ninth street discussing the production of the play at that time, said that there was nothing in the play which would interfere with its production in any theatre, even though it did not have the backing of the medical people.

Mrs. Davis said that Mr. Robinson had told her to write in a scene in a doctor's office and that he had not said he had read such a scene in another play. The first she knew of Mrs. Stokes's play, she said, was when Mrs. Stokes wrote her.

Mrs. Stokes's Letter.
This is the letter which Mrs. Stokes wrote to Mrs. Davis. It was dated September 14:

"Mr. Robinson, who had asked me to serve on a committee he is forming to introduce a certain new play to the public, came to my house for the week end and to discuss the matter with me and as I could not consent to become a member until I could judge the play as a whole (though I was sympathetic with the action as conveyed to me by Mr. Robinson) I invited Mr. Paul Bern at Mr. Robinson's suggestion to come and read the play."

The play was read last night here in my house to a few critical friends and myself. My own purpose in writing your concern the portrayal of a certain scene in your play—the doctor scene—Mr. Robinson's request I read Mr. Robinson two acts of a play of mine, one scene in the first act of which was this very doctor scene that I was astonished to hear read to me out of your play last night."

"I inquired of Mr. Bern and Mr. Robinson and learned that Mr. Robinson had suggested that scene to you after I had read to him the scene in my play. It is of course extremely likely that it was an act of subconscious plagiarism (as I do believe) that he carried the suggestion to you without realizing that it was not an original idea with him. He has offered to see you about it and ask you to withdraw the scene from your play that he now realizes was taken from mine, but I am writing to you personally to tell you how the thing transpired so that there may be no room for misunderstanding."

Both prisoners are said to have lived quiet lives and not to have been interested about riding, speculating, or any form of gambling.

At a conference between Consul Rios and the Constitutional authorities the American representative is believed to have failed to secure a promise that destruction of property would cease. Consul Rios then conferred with army officers stationed here and the order to Americans to leave Mexico resulted.

Seventy-three Americans crossed the international bridge late today, although it is not known that they can stop the threatened destruction of property by the Constitutionalists.

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BANK TELLERS HELD ON THEFT CHARGES

Employees of Bayonne Institution Said to Have
Stolen \$7,500.

ARRESTED AT THEIR WORK

Police Assert Both Have Con-
fessed—Examiners at
Work on Books.

Charles E. Jaeger, paying teller of the City Bank of Bayonne, and Henry J. Klink, his assistant, were arrested yesterday while they were at work on charges of having embezzled \$7,500 of the bank's money.

Both men are said to have confessed. Jaeger said in his that Klink learned he was stealing from the bank, and beginning with that discovery the assistant paying teller helped himself to money whenever he wanted it.

Jaeger has been employed in the bank for fifteen years and is of sedate habits. While he was on his vacation this summer a discrepancy of \$45 was found in his accounts. The bank examiner was called in, but the system of covering up the thefts was so involved that the original shortage was not easily found.

While the bank examiner was looking for Jaeger returned to work. Monday night the examiner found that a false note for \$5,000 had been uttered and put in the bank's assets. The county prosecutor was furnished with the evidence and the arrests followed.

The men were arraigned before Judge Tennant and held in \$5,000 bail each. The Grand Jury, which was in session, returned indictments during the afternoon. Jaeger is said to have confessed that he had forged the note for \$5,000 which began the series of peculations. He covered this up on his books, and although his books were examined by State bank examiners and bank auditors the theft was not discovered.

Jaeger felt hurt at Klink's conduct. He complained that while he was away Klink had discovered that the accounts were not right and the assistant had taken advantage of Jaeger's absence to help himself from the till. Jaeger said that all he got was the original \$5,000 and maybe about \$1,000 more. The rest of the stolen money had gone into Klink's pocket without the knowledge or connivance of Jaeger.

The bank is capitalized at \$100,000. President Hamilton said last night that the theft will have little effect upon the solidity of the institution. Many of the depositors are foreigners and it is feared that when they learn of the theft this morning they will start a run on the bank.

President Hamilton said he does not believe this will happen, as the capital and surplus is so large compared with the amount of the theft and that the bank is protected by a bonding company. The president is responsible for the statement that several bank examiners, an auditor and some of the officials of the bank had examined the books of the teller and found nothing.

Both prisoners are said to have lived quiet lives and not to have been interested about riding, speculating, or any form of gambling.

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TIFFANY & Co.

IMPORTED NOVELTIES

NEW YORK PARIS LONDON

REFUGEES FROM MEXICO FLEE TO EAGLE PASS

Consul Advises Americans to
Leave—Property Is
Threatened.

EAGLE PASS, Tex., Sept. 30.—Public buildings and other unusual lodging places were thrown open here to-night to give shelter to refugees from Piedras Negras, the provisional capital of the Constitutionalists, on which the Mexican Federal army is advancing. Many of the refugees are Americans. Some Mexican and Japanese refugees were refused admission to the United States.

An attack on Piedras Negras is considered imminent and there were few who did not heed the warning of the American consul to betake themselves across the border. It was said by some of the arrivals that Consul Blocker had told them that if any one refused to move out in accordance with his directions that person would forfeit the protection of the United States Government.

Prisoners in the Piedras negro fall on sedition charges are said to have been shot.

Foreigners on the other side of the international bridge will feel easier when the United States troops arrive here, although it is not known that they can stop the threatened destruction of property by the Constitutionalists.

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Men's Sweater Coats at \$2.95

315 are \$5.00 grade
160 are \$6.00 grade
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These are samples, and everybody knows that a sample is merchandise on its Sunday behavior. They are the product of one of the best makers and perfect in every stitch. Heavy shaker, Jumbo, Cardigan and fancy weaves, in gray, navy, tan, maroon, white, brown and fancy heather effects. Rough neck, V neck and auto collar styles. All wool.

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for the man who is headed
Saks-ward early this morning

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Should interest the man who keeps
pace with his opportunities

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